

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application.

I. Priority

The Office Action notes Applicant's claim for priority to French Application 0403073 filed on March 25, 2004, but asserts that a certified copy of the priority document has not been filed. However, the Office Action Summary from the Office Action dated April 21, 2008 indicates that all copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). Applicant also notes that a copy of the certified priority document is present in the image file wrapper in the Patent Office PAIR system (date of 10/30/2008). Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts that a certified copy of the priority document has been received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and, thus, Applicant respectfully requests that acknowledgment of such receipt be indicated in any future communication from the Patent Office.

Further, submitted herewith is, upon information and belief, an accurate translation of FR 0403073. As is evident from the translation of FR 0403073 attached hereto, the pending claims are fully supported by FR 0403073. Accordingly, the pending claims are entitled to the benefit of the March 25, 2004 filing date of FR 0403073.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 7,119,417 B2 to Sorada et al. ("Sorada"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Sorada is not available as prior art against the instant claims. The present application is the national phase of International Application No. PCT/FR2005/000717, filed March 25, 2005, and claims priority benefit of FR 0403073, filed March 25, 2004. For the reasons stated above, the present claims are entitled to the benefit of the March 25, 2004 filing date of FR 0403073.

Sorada was filed on September 24, 2004. As Sorada was filed after the March 25, 2004 effective filing date of the present application, Sorada is not available as prior art against the present application under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

For the foregoing reasons, Sorada is not available as prior art against the instant claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejects claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sorada in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,091,076 to Deleonibus. ("Deleonibus"), and rejects claims 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sorada in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,090,289 to Dennard et al. ("Dennard"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

For the foregoing reasons, Sorada is not available as prior art against the instant claims. Accordingly, Sorada is not available as prior art in the combination of Sorada and Deleonibus and the combination of Sorada and Dennard against the instant claims. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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WPB:NAB

Attachment:
English Translation of FR 0403073

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